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via
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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Howard Branz)
Serial No.: 09/714,331) Art Unit: 1765
Filing Date: November 16, 2000) Examiner: L. Umez-Eronini
Title: METHOD FOR IMPROVING THE)
STABILITY OF AMORPHOUS SILICON)
File No.: NREL 99-10)

REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION
UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111

To: Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

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MAR 18 2002
TC 1700

Dear Sir:

In response to the Examiner's Office Action, Paper No. 2, dated December 07, 2001,
please consider the following response.

REMARKS

The Examiner has indicated in the outstanding Office Action, Paper No. 2, dated December 07, 2001 that claim 7 allegedly fails to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter of the invention. The Examiner has also expressed prior art concerns with respect to claims 1-17. The Examiner has alleged that claims 1, 2, and 8-17 are anticipated by the Hollingsworth reference (U.S. Patent No. 5,759,745) pursuant to 35 U.S.C. 102(b). The Examiner has further alleged that claims 3-7 are obvious in light of the Hollingsworth reference, further in view of the Shimbo reference (U.S. Patent No. 4,624,737).

This request for reconsideration is provided with the intent of being fully responsive to the outstanding Office Action and responsive to each ground of objection and rejection therein.